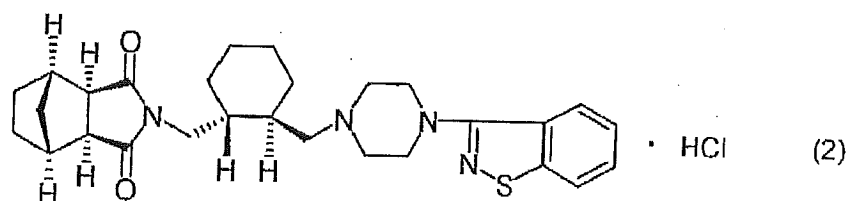


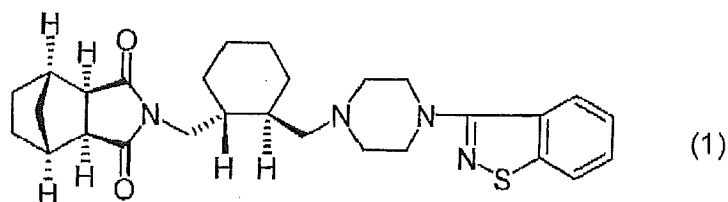
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A process for producing an imide compound hydrochloride of the formula (2):



or an enantiomers thereof,

which comprises treating a compound of the formula (1):



or an enantiomer thereof with an 1.8 to 5.0% aqueous hydrochloric acid solution in a hydrophilic solvent acetone, followed by crystallizing the resultant crystallizing the resultant hydrochloride of the formula (2), and isolating the crystallized hydrochloride of the formula (2).

2. – 4. (canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The process for producing the imide compound hydrochloride according to ~~any one of claim 1, 2, and 3~~ claim 1, wherein the aqueous hydrochloric acid solution is a 3.0 - 5.0% aqueous hydrochloric acid solution.